

REMARKS

The non-final Office Action mailed July 29, 2005 has been received and carefully reviewed. Claims 1-56 are pending in the application. Applicant acknowledges the allowance of claims 1-15, 17-47, and 50-56. Reconsideration of the application and withdrawal of the present rejections are respectfully requested in view of the following remarks.

Claims 16, 48, and 49 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which the applicant regards as the invention. Applicant has amended claims 16, 48, and 49 to correct minor antecedent basis inconsistencies. Applicant's amendments to claims 16, 48, and 49 do not have a narrowing effect on the breadth of these claims, but are made only for the purpose of correcting minor antecedent basis inconsistencies.

The Examiner indicates that claims 16, 48, and 49 would be allowable if rewritten or amended to overcome the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, set forth in the Office action. Applicant respectfully submits that the present amendments to claims 16, 48, and 49 overcome the Examiner's rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, and that these claims are in condition for allowance.

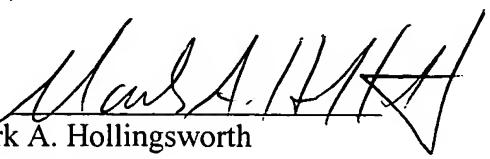
Claim 12 was objected to for informalities reasons. Applicant has amended claim 12 to address the minor informalities objection. Applicant's amendment to claim 12 is not made for purposes of patentability, as this amendment is made to address an informalities objection made by the Examiner. Further, Applicant's amendment to claim 12 does not have a narrowing effect on the breadth of this claim. Applicant respectfully submits that the present amendment to claim 12 fully addresses the Examiner's informalities objection of claim 12, and that claim 12 is in condition for allowance.

It is believed that all pending claims are in condition for allowance, and notification to that effect is respectfully requested. The Examiner is invited to contact Applicant's Representatives, at the below-listed telephone number, if there are any questions regarding the above new claims or if prosecution of this application may be assisted thereby.

Respectfully submitted,

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